

Approved 6/26/17

TOWN OF HAMPDEN, MASSACHUSETTS
BOARD OF SELECTMEN/BOARD OF HEALTH
MINUTES

February 27, 2017
6:00 pm

625 Main Street
Hampden MA

Board Members: John D. Flynn, Norman Charest, Vincent J. Villamaino
Vinnie Villamaino was unable to attend the meeting due to a personal matter.
John Flynn called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Police Department: Chief Farnsworth and Sgt. Mike Cooney came before the board to introduce David DiMiero, a candidate for a position of Reserve Officer. Mike Cooney did the background check and is confident that David will be a good addition to the reserve staff. He currently works as a full time officer at Western New England University and is enthusiastic about being able to fill many shifts during the summer in particular. John emphasized the importance of being a community officer, with the hope that resident's first contact with an officer would be the offer of "how can we help you?" David explained that he grew up in Ware, another small community and has been doing bicycle duty during the past summers. Given that Jeff Beattie has been added to the full time roster, this is a good time to appoint David to the Reserve spot left vacant. Norman asked if all of the necessary background work had been done and the Chief stated that all David needs to do is firearms training. Given the recommendation from the Chief, Norman made a motion to appoint David DiMiero as a Reserve Officer, effective today, with a probationary period of six months, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

At the Chief's request, a motion was made by Norman Charest to go into Executive Session at 6:20 pm for discussion of a personnel issue with an employee, with return to Open Session, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: Norman Charest yes, John Flynn yes.

A motion was made by Norman Charest to leave Executive Session at 7:00 pm and return to Open Session, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: Norman Charest yes, John Flynn yes.

Agreement for Use of the Hampden County Sheriff's Department for Pre-Arrestment Holding:
The Chief presented a memo from Sheriff Cocci's office extending a service to the Hampden Police Department, as well as other departments in Western MA, to allow prisoners to be transported to the Hampden County Sheriff's Department different facilities; Ludlow for men and Chicopee for women. The board asked that Jeff come back with additional information and

in the meantime the document will be forwarded to town counsel for their review. Jeff will come to another meeting to discuss further with the board.

The board discussed budget numbers before going down to meet with Advisory at 7:15 pm.

The board reviewed their budget numbers with Advisory, with no real surprises as to any additional funds needed for the coming year. We are working on reducing our costs for property and liability insurance and worker's compensation coverage and anticipate an increase in the cost of health care. The account for Law and Claims will be watched as we get closer to ATM in the event that number needs to be increased. The cost of our electricity came up and due to our solar agreements we anticipate a decrease in our costs by 25%.

The board returned to their office, where a motion was made by Norman Charest to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 pm, seconded by John Flynn. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela B Courtney
Administrative Assistant

/pbc